AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second paragraph on page 14 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The laboratory-based techniques described above, in particular RFLP and SSR, are routinely used in such backcrosses to identify the progenies having the highest degree of genetic identity with the recurrent parent. This permits to accelerate the production of inbred maize lines having at least 90%, preferably at least 95%, more preferably at least 99% genetic identity with the recurrent parent, yet more preferably genetically identical to the recurrent parent, and further comprising the trait(s) introgressed from the donor patent. Such determination of genetic identity is based on molecular markers used in the laboratory-based techniques described above. Such molecular markers are for example those known in the art and described in Boppenmaier, et al., "Comparisons among strains of inbreds for RFLPs", Maize Genetics Cooperative Newsletter (1991) 65, pg. 90, or those available from the University of Missouri database and the Brookhaven laboratory database ~~(see http://www.agron.missouri.edu)~~. The last backcross generation is then selfed to give pure breeding progeny for the gene(s) being transferred. The resulting plants have essentially all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of inbred maize line NP2222, in addition to the single gene trait(s) transferred to the inbred. Preferably, the resulting plants have all of the morphological and physiological characteristics of inbred maize line NP2222, in addition to the single gene trait(s) transferred to the inbred. The exact backcrossing protocol will depend on the trait being altered to determine an appropriate testing protocol. Although backcrossing methods are simplified when the trait being transferred is a dominant allele, a recessive allele may also be transferred. In this instance it may be necessary to introduce a test of the progeny to determine if the desired trait has been successfully transferred.

Please replace the second paragraph on page 18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Specific transgenic events introgressed into maize inbred line NP2222 can be obtained through the list of Petitions of Nonregulated Status Granted by APHIS as of 10-12-2000~~are~~

~~found at~~ ~~http://www.aphis.usda.gov/bbep/bp/not_reg.html~~. Examples of such events are~~For example,~~ ~~introgressed from~~ the glyphosate tolerant event GA21 (9709901p), glyphosate tolerant/Lepidopteran insect resistant event MON 802 (9631701p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event DBT418 (9629101p), male sterile event MS3 (9522801p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event Bt11 (9519501p), phosphinothricin tolerant event B16 (9514501p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event MON 80100 (9509301p), phosphinothricin tolerant events T14, T25 (9435701p), Lepidopteran insect resistant event 176 (9431901p).

Please replace the Deposit Information paragraph on page 21 and continuing on page 22 as follows:

Applicant[[s]] has[[have]] made a deposit of at least 2500 seeds of Inbred Maize Line NP2222 with the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC), Manassas, Virginia, 20110-2209 U.S.A., ATCC Deposit No: PTA-3967. During pendency of this application, access to the invention will be afforded to the Commissioner by request; all restrictions upon availability to the public will be irrevocably revoked upon granting of the patent; the[[This]] deposit of the Inbred Maize Line NP2222 will be maintained in the ATCC depository, which is a public depository, for a period of 30 years, or 5 years after the most recent request, or for the effective life of the patent, whichever is longer, and will be replaced if it becomes nonviable during that period. Applicant has tested the viability of the deposit at the time of deposit. ~~Additionally,~~ Applicant[[s]] has~~have~~ satisfied all the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.801-1.809~~, including providing an indication of the viability of the sample~~. Applicant[[s]] imposes no restrictions on the availability of the deposited material from the ATCC; however, Applicant[[s]] has[[have]] no authority to waive any restrictions imposed by law on the transfer of biological material or its transportation in commerce. Applicant[[s]] does not waive any infringement of its rights granted under this patent or under the Plant Variety Protection Act (7 USC 2321 et seq.).